

135 W. 44th St.,
April 26, 1887.

My Dear May,

I do not think it would be wise for me to take part, or to seem to take part, in the dispute between Thayer and the writers in the Century. That his claims are very extravagant, under the inflating power of his vanity, I am sure; but on the other hand, I am ^{not} sure that Nicolay and Hay are right as to the facts. I might allude to the fact that Thayer's claims are disputed by the author's of Lincoln's biography, but I should not like to assume much on their mere authority. However, if you will return the MS. to me, I will look it over and see if I can modify or add to it in the way you suggest without seeming to go beyond the record.

If you have my letter, containing what I proposed to add on the support given to our movement by Republicans please return it to me with the MS.

Perhaps it will be best to return the whole of the MS. instead of a part or parts, as there will in that case be less liability to mistake in incorporating new matter.

No, I could not think of going to Worcester to read the Review myself. There would be no advantage in doing that to outweigh the objections that lie before me.

I will ^{modify} ~~make~~ the allusion to Lundy, &c., in a way to meet your objections.

Yours,

J. J.